

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
OTSEGO LAKE ASSOCIATION
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2009 at 9:00 AM
COOPERSTOWN VILLAGE BOARD ROOM**

OPENING OF MEETING: meeting was called to order by President, Wayne Bunn.

Board Members in Attendance: Scottie Baker, Wayne Bunn, Mary Clarke, Carl Good, Tom Horvath, Suzanne Kingsley, Paul Lord, David Sanford, and Mickie Richtsmeier.

Board Members Absent: Ryan Davine and Burr Southworth

Changes to Board of Directors: A letter of Resignation was received from John Lambert. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to move Ryan Davine from Director at Large to Village of Cooperstown Director.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed to appoint Suzanne Kingsley as Director at Large.

Carl informed the Board that Martin Tillapaugh has agreed to replace John Lambert as OLA Attorney. (John has been contacted to send previous year's tax forms to Martin.)

1. **Treasurer's Report** was distributed by Mary Clarke. (Carrie Southworth, treasurer, had E-Mailed previously). The balance on hand as of 9/26/08 was \$7479.22. There have been 3 new memberships adding \$150, merchandise sales for \$60, and general donations for \$490. Total deposits were, therefore, \$700. There were no disbursements, leaving a Balance on hand in the primary account of \$8179.22. The Buffer Strip account remained constant with a balance of \$1541.01. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to accept the Treasurer's Report.
2. **Membership Report** –David reported that we have 3 new members since our last meeting and have a total of 63 members at present. Wayne stressed that one of his major goals was to increase the membership. We discussed person to person recruitment, mass mailings, ads in the newspapers and little blurbs in the Pennysaver. Wayne also said that he plans to meet with the President of the Canadarago Lake Association to discuss areas of mutual interest and to establish a relationship.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

3. **No Wake Zone Buoys** –Paul reported that \$1975 had been received for buoys from Otsego Co. Tourism and that \$500 had been requested from each municipality. Initial responses were positive from Cooperstown and negative from Town of Otsego. Paul reported that

the following were needed for the project: chain, connector hardware, and tools (costing about \$1000), as well as a nitrox add-on to the BFS compressor (which would cost \$3190 plus shipping plus medical oxygen cylinder).

4. **Cooperstown Boat Inspections** –Carl reported that this was all set except for finding inspectors.
5. **Stone Lined Ditches** –Scottie reported that she had not heard from Sean Mulligan. David said he planned to work with the county highway department. There will be a follow-up at the BOD meeting in April.
6. **Phosphorus Free Detergent** – Paul reported that only one company has agreed to provide samples. We will give out what we have at future general meetings. The Board was pleased that there was greater availability of P-free products in the area. Paul showed a sign that he had reproduced which would promote P-free and buffer strips with our logo. We discussed ways of using this. Scottie suggested using the poster on the back of our application and sending with an announcement of our annual meeting. Tom will also talk to the SUCO marketing club about developing an alternative OLA logo which would be less costly to reproduce.
7. **Merchandise** -Scottie & Mary reported that our inventory is low on caps, but that we would probably be okay to wait to reorder until after the Earth Festival. Mary suggested that we consider adding sweatshirts to our offerings.
8. **Earth Festival** – Scottie reported that the Earth Festival will be from 11-4 on April 18 at Milford School. Wayne and Carl will check out whether they can man our booth since neither Scottie nor Mickie will be in town. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to be represented at Earth Day and to send \$25 to register. It was also agreed to donate a tee shirt and/or hat and to donate a lakescape book for the silent auction.
9. **Otsego Lake Festival** –Scottie reported that an executive committee meeting had been recently been postponed, so there will more news next week after they reconvene. A major problem continues to be lack of money since the Water Quality Committee has decided that the festival has to be self-funded. Scottie said that the biggest expense is the salary of the event organizer and tent rental. She said that a different venue was being considered and that Glimmerglass State Park was a strong possibility. A discussion followed about pros and cons of Glimmerglass. BOD members suggested ways of reducing parking expense and providing benefits such as free admission to OLA members. Scottie will take suggestions to the Lake Festival executive committee.

10. **Website** -Burr has reported via E-Mail that the web site is up to date, but that he still needs help completing the buffer strip narrative.
11. **Law Enforcement Liaison** -David reported that he had no news, but the consensus was that the DEC had been on the lake a lot this winter.
12. **Otsego County Water Quality Coordinating Committee** -Carl referred us to the minutes which he regularly emails to all directors.
13. **Otsego 2000 Liaison** -Scottie reported that a new executive director was coming on board.
14. **OCCA Liaison** -Wayne said he planned to coordinate with Erik Miller more in the future.
15. **Smart Steps Booklet** -Paul reported that we still have a good supply which we will continue to distribute.
16. **Lakefront Park Buffer Strip** - Suzanne reported that June 4, with a rain date of June 5 has been set for the BOCES students to help to finish the boardwalk installation and mulching. Mickie said that a grant had been received from the College For Every Student foundation to underwrite the students' participation. We discussed what remained to be done to prepare (gravel, etc.) Carl will be in touch with the Village, and Suzanne will coordinate with Lake and Valley Garden Club. We also discussed contacting the organizers of the General Clinton on Memorial Day and requesting that the canoes be launched via the boat launch rather than by the docks and buffer strip. Mary reminded us of the funds remaining in the Buffer Strip account. Signage was discussed as a possible area for using this funding. We discussed signage from the village center to the buffer strip as well as informational signage at the Buffer Strip. The Cooperstown Graduate Program was approached to work on the later, we will follow-up on that.
17. **Public Landing Buffer Strip** -Mary reported that Springfield is not currently interested in taking money from outside groups for local projects. Mickie has contacted Dan Rosen who would be supportive, but it appears that there would not be majority support by the Springfield Board at this time. The question was raised whether the run-off issue was more complicated than could be remedied by a buffer strip alone and if so, how it could be addressed.
18. **Fenimore Art Museum Buffer Strip** -Suzanne reported that NYSHA is in the beginning steps of planning a buffer strip at their lakefront. This will include the creation of an artificial wetlands to show the different plants that the Indians used. The consensus of the BOD was that OLA would like to be involved. This will be pursued as plans develop.

19. **Mud Plume Photography**- This continues to be an area of interest. Board Members will continue to spread the word, and Wayne will arrange a press release to encourage response. The BOD also authorized a \$300 prize for 08-09 aerial photos showing mud entering the lake.
20. **NYS Rt. 80 Adopt A Highway** –Wayne has the paperwork for this and will run it by the attorney.
21. **OLA Newsletter** –Although there was general agreement that there were many subjects of interest and excellent contributors for a newsletter, the many hours necessary to put one together makes it difficult to find an editor. We also discussed newspaper advertisement for members and mass mailings.

OLD BUSINESS

- 23 It was voted that memberships in OCCA and NYSFOLA would be renewed with a maximum expenditure of \$150 for both memberships. The NYSFOLA meeting will be the first weekend in May. The Board voted to pay the fee for Board members to attend the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

24. **Potential Fund Raiser** – Web Search Engine: GoodSearch.com –Carl has signed us all up. OLA will receive \$.01 for each hit we make.
25. **Video Tape Membership Meetings & Post On Website and/or Broadcast Live Online** – The Board discussed and agreed that since we provide comprehensive minutes and that there could be problems with permission from participants and impact on free “give and take” at meetings that we would not proceed with this at this time.
26. (a) 1st **Annual OLA Boat Parade** –Wayne proposed this as a fun activity. The Board agreed that we should explore this further.
(b) **OLA Open Water Jump** at C’town Winter Carnival was discussed as another activity possibility. After discussion, concerns were raised about safety and liability issues. It also was suggested that we should not compete with the Goodyear Lake activity but might want to send an OLA team instead.
27. **Nominating Committee for Annual Election** (June Membership Meeting) A Committee consisting of David (Chair), Mickie, & Paul was appointed.

Positions Up For Election:

- a. President – Currently Wayne Bunn
- b. Director - Town of Otsego (Currently Scottie Baker)
- c. Director - Town of Springfield (Currently Mary Clarke, who will not run again)

- d. Director – Town of Middlefield (Currently Burr Southworth)
 - e. Director – Village of Cooperstown (Currently Ryan Davine)
28. **Suggested Main Topic For June Membership Meeting** (Wayne)
“Zebra Mussels Are Here And Growing: How Do We Deal With Them?": Presented by BFS Rep., Canadarago and/or Goodyear Lake Assoc. Rep., Local Rep. for Water Line Filters, and Rep. from Village of Cooperstown (Water Dept.)
Issues/Problems To Be Discussed Include Growth Rate, Experience at Near-By Lakes, Water Intake Lines, Boat Hulls & Engines, Docks & Boat Lifts, Floats, and Swimming
The Board agreed that this would be an excellent topic. Tom will email Wayne a list of people who would be good contributors.
29. **Problems, Issues, Concerns**, Suggestions, Etc. were solicited, but there were none at this time.
30. **Dates for Next** Board of Directors and Membership Meetings
- a. Board of Directors: Sat., April 25, 2009 (Location – Village Board Room)
 - b. Annual Meeting: Sat., June 20, 2009 at 8:30 AM (Location- we will check on Springfield Community Center if BFS remodeling will make it unavailable).
 - c. Informational Meeting: Sat., August 15, 2009 at 8:30 AM (Location to be determined)
30. **Membership Letters** were prepared for Mailing
31. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Mickie Richtsmeier

